

# ResLife, students cope with A/C malfunction

BY PAIGE YUNGERMANN  
Staff Reporter

The air conditioning in the Missouri Hall dining hall and lobby area is still not working after almost one month of being broken.

The exact cause of the air conditioning breaking is unknown, though there is some concern by University staff that there might be ties to the renovations Missouri Hall experienced during 2007.

John Gardner, Director of Residence Life, said repairs were expected to be completed by Wednesday, but have been delayed due to a shipping error. He is unsure when the necessary parts to repair the system will arrive.

The cause of the air conditioning outage was a broken compressor, an essential part to an air conditioning units, systems trades supervisor Bob Techau said.

Techau said the new compressor costs \$5,960. Techau said it is unclear exactly how the compressor broke, but said the outage might have been caused by a lightning strike that happened a year ago.

"There's no cut and dry answer to the fail," Techau said. "The problems we have sometimes are not an exact science. We are pretty sure that a lightning strike might have contributed to this because we have no good explanation."

Techau said he will have a better idea of what caused the failure after the old compressor is examined. He said this might take a few months.

Gardner said the air conditioning in Missouri Hall has not worked properly since the renovations during 2007. He said there have also been short-term outages which residents don't notice but this time the problem will take longer to fix.

"Sometimes stuff just doesn't work like it's designed to," Gardner said. "Whenever you renovate a building, what you find is not everything works like you figured it should."

Gardner said while the air conditioning problems in Missouri Hall might require large-scale renovations of the air conditioning system, it is unlikely to happen until after 2014 when the Centennial Hall renovations are complete. He said any large-scale changes will be costly, and he hopes the new compressor will solve the problem.

Missouri Hall is not the only residence hall to experience problems with air conditioning, Gardner said, though the problems are not related. He said



Ashley Jost/Index

Box fans have been placed throughout the Missouri Hall dining hall as late as Wednesday afternoon while the University waits for the new compressor to fix the building's air conditioning. Though it's been decided the broken part was the air conditioner's compressor, the exact cause for the malfunction is still unknown.

the chiller in the Ryle Hall air conditioning system broke Sept. 7, which was repaired three days later.

Because of the extended length of time the air conditioning hasn't been working in Missouri Hall, freshman Claire Rodell said she tries to avoid the warm dining hall temperatures by eating as quickly as possible.

"I'm not a person that enjoys the heat," Rodell said. "It's not very enjoyable to sit in the heat and eat. It's not comfortable."

Missouri Hall Director Zac Burden said the cafeteria staff suffers the most because they work in the hot kitchen.

To help keep this dining hall cool for students and cafeteria staff, fans are used to blow cool air into the dining

area from the Chariton Room, which is attached to the dining hall and still has working air conditioning, Gardner said. The cooler temperatures also help keep the building cool, and he is not anticipating any problems with the heating system this winter.

Burden said he and other diners still sometimes feel uncomfortable while eating meals, but he is glad Missouri Hall residents are considerate of the time it takes to make repairs.

"I just appreciate everyone's patience that has been shown on this," Burden said. "I know it doesn't make for an easy time to eat a meal when the air conditioning's out, but I just appreciate that everyone's been understanding of this one and patient."

# Math Dept. adds self-paced class

BY RACHEL LIKERT  
Staff Reporter

The Truman State math department is offering pre-calculus as a computer-based option for the first time this semester.

The class is administered through Hawkes Learning Systems facilitated by math professor Jay Belanger.

Belanger said the class can be taken solely through the computer, he said, as the software has an interactive computer textbook. He said the course is self-paced, meaning students decide when they want to work on the lessons or take the tests.

While he said the class can be completely only using the software, students have additional opportunities to attend optional, weekly lectures and receive help in a lab with one-on-one tutors.

Previously, the math department only offered college algebra and trigonometry through the Hawkes program.

Belanger said a larger percentage of students are passing college algebra and trigonometry than when they were offered in traditional form.

Belanger said pre-calculus was added for students with a higher level of understanding with math to earn credit for algebra and trigonometry, which is three credit hours total, during one semester.

Junior Luke Anderson, a student tutor for the computer-based math courses, said he still hears concerns from students. He said it isn't the material that students struggle with, so much as the program itself with most of the questions being able navigating the software.

Belanger said the largest problem he sees with the issues students have is the lack of communication between the students and him when there are concerns. He said about five students regularly visit his office for help, while many more stop by once or twice during the semester.

Of classes with about 170 pre-calculus students, about 15 regularly go to the optional lecture, Belanger said. He said an even smaller percentage of the 300 trigonometry students and 500 algebra students attend those lectures.

The greatest challenge students have with the courses is keeping up with the workload, Belanger said. He said the classes come with deadlines to keep students moving, it's just up to the students to be responsible and complete it within a timely manner.



## Sonny's Collision Center

**Quality work for 30 years**

- Insurance estimates
- Cheerfully furnished
- One-stop repairing
- All domestic and imports
- Frame straightening
- Modern paint & body repair



**660-665-8533**

515 N. Marion  
Mon to Fri 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Nobody notices our work, and that's the way it should be.**



APARTMENTS, HOUSES,  
and duplexes available *now*.

Call Heritage House Realty, Inc.  
660-665-5638 or 660-626-5488

[www.kirksvillerealestate.com](http://www.kirksvillerealestate.com)



Scan here with your smartphone to see a complete list of rentals.

## Vista Heights Apartments

**Now Leasing**  
1 and 2 Bedroom Apartments for the  
2011-2012 School Year  
May or August move in dates available

- On site 24 hour laundry
- On site manager
- On site maintenance with 24 hour on call services
- Off street parking
- Recently updated units
- Free daily shuttle to Truman Campus
- Clean and quiet living

For more information visit our website at [vistaheightspts.com](http://vistaheightspts.com)  
For availability and showing appointments call  
Kelli Nigh at 665-9224 or 626-3914

# IT'S TIME.

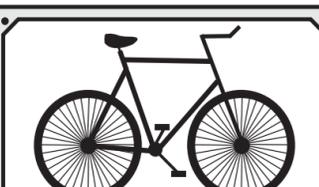
FOR A NEW RESTAURANT ON THE SQUARE.

COMING SOON TO 112 N. FRANKLIN STREET

**DINER STYLE  
&  
FREE WI-FI**

LIKE IT'S TIME ON FACEBOOK  
TO ADD MENU REQUESTS

[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PAGES/ITS-TIME/265225350245843](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Its-Time/265225350245843)



Truman State University

# INDEX

<http://tmn.truman.edu/theindex/>

## NOW HIRING

Scholarship / Institutional

SECTIONS

NEWS OPINIONS FEATURES SPORTS

### REPORTERS NEEDED